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Littlehampton Urban District

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


FOR THE YEAR

1952

BY

FRANK COCKCROFT

M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. D.P.H.



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LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
MANOR HOUSE,
LITTLEHAMPTON.

June, 1953.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1952.

There were 13 fewer deaths and 60 more births than in 1951. The latter is partly due to the new married quarters of the Navy. The result is that the Birth Rate for the year was exceptionally high, whilst the Death Rate was at a reasonably low level. The principal causes of death were heart and circulatory disorders (53), vascular lesions of the nervous system (28) and cancer (37).

You will notice that the population has almost doubled since the beginning of the century, but the most striking figures are those of Infant Mortality. The death rate of infants dying before reaching their first birthday fell from 143 per thousand in 1901 to 30 per thousand in 1952. Of the 8 infant deaths in 1952 all but two died within the first week and four of these were premature.

The average number of persons living in a house in the town has fallen from 4.9 to 3.6 during the last 50 years.

There was no undue prevalence of any infectious disease. Again no case of Diphtheria. A glance at the table will show the fall in number of cases and deaths since the beginning of the century. It is still essential that mothers continue to have their infants immunised against diphtheria, preferably during the first year. If immunisation were stopped it would only be a short time before there were more outbreaks of diphtheria with their accompanying distress to the families concerned and an increased demand for hospital beds.

Smallpox is another preventable disease. When there is a scare in a locality due to this dreadful disease many people rush to have themselves and families vaccinated, hoping they will not be too late. The sensible procedure is for parents to have their children vaccinated early in infancy when there will be very little disturbance to the child. The children should then be vaccinated every three years and there will be virtually no reaction on these occasions if there was a successful primary vaccination in infancy. Then vaccination should continue throughout adult life. If this were done there would be no need to fear the disease, and valuable lives saved, such as a schoolboy of eight who was one of eight deaths amongst 30 cases in the north of England recently.

I should like to thank Mr. McGarry and the staff of the Health Department for carrying out the work in a very satisfactory manner.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Littlehampton Urban District Council.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,720.

Resident Population (1952), estimated by Registrar General, 14,130.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1952), £146,214.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £600.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1952 according to Rate Book, 3,950.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate ...	254	127	127	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Illegitimate ...	16	9	7	resident population 19.1
				Corrected Rate, 20.4.
Stillbirths ...	5	3	2	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and
				still) births, 18.01.
Deaths ...	164	80	84	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated
				resident population, 11.6.
				Corrected Rate, 10.1.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :
None.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 8.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 29.6.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 31.5.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 37.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), none.

Comparative Statistics, 1952.

		England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	Sussex Rural	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate ...	...	15.3	12.3	13.9	19.1
Death Rate ...	...	11.3	14.9	11.9	11.6
Infantile Death Rate ...	...	27.6	17	18	29.6
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate ...	...	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Cancer Death Rate ...	...	1.9	2.8	2.1	2.6
Maternal Mortality Rate					
per 1,000 births ...	...	0.72	0.9	0.9	0.0

Comparative Statistics, 1901—1952.

	1901	1905	1910	1920	1925	1935	1951	1952
Population	7,363	8,165	8,800	8,593	9,020	10,178	13,990	14,130
Birth Rate	20.9	20.8	19.6	20.1	14.8	13.2	15.01	19.1
Death Rate	13.7	11.8	12.2	11.7	11.3	12.1	12.7	11.6
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	143	105	81	52	59	63	24	30
No. Inhab- ited Houses	1,504	—	1,806	—	1,785	3,308	3,822	3,950
Average No. of persons per house	4.9	—	4.6	—	5.1	3.1	3.7	3.6

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MISS F. M. McDONALD

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT*Medical Officer of Health :*

FRANK COCKCROFT, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. J. L. McGARRY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE
AREA****I. Local Health Authority Services.***(a) Nursing.*

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the County Council to serve in the area.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

A Materity and Child Welfare Centre and Ante-Natal Clinic are provided at Littlehampton Health Centre, Elm Grove Road.

(c) School Clinics.

School Clinics for minor ailments are held at Littlehampton Health Centre.

An Eye Clinic is held when required at the Health Centre.

Dental Clinics are held periodically at Littlehampton and Lyminster for the treatment of children with decayed teeth. Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics.

Ear Clinics are held from time to time at the Chichester Health Centre, and appointments are made for children suffering from ear disease to attend.

Speech Therapy Clinics are held regularly at Chichester and Bognor Regis Health Centres and as required at the Littlehampton Health Centre.

(d) *Orthopædic Clinics.*

These are held at Chichester Health Centre to which Littlehampton School children are taken by appointment for treatment of crippling defects. The Orthopædic Nurse supervises children who have been prescribed exercises at these Clinics.

(e) *Physiotherapy Clinics* are held at Littlehampton Health Centre.

(f) *Chest Clinics.*

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

(g) *Veneral Disease.*

Residents may attend Clinics at Worthing Hospital, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, or St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

(h) *Ambulance Service.*

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

Lists showing names and addresses of midwives, health visitors and general nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester. Information as to the situation of clinics and times of sessions may be obtained from the same sources, or from the local midwife, health visitors or general nurse.

II. Hospital and Specialists Services.

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges.

III. General Medical and Dental Services.

Everyone is entitled as part of the arrangements for the National Health Service to general medical and dental care. Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 63 South Street, Chichester.

IV. Home Help Service.

This is carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council. They do an extremely valuable work in assisting maternity cases and aged people, sometimes in the most difficult conditions.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1952.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47

It was necessary to take action under the above section in respect of one case. This was a man, aged approximately 79, living in a condemned cottage. He was senile, feeble and extremely deaf, and unable to devote to himself and was not receiving from other persons the proper care and attention which an old man should receive. The only water was from a tap outside the row of cottages. There was no gas or electricity and the man spent most of his time sitting in front of an open fire. At night he had a candle as the only source of illumination. There was no neighbour who could come to his assistance. As a result of these conditions the Council brought the case before the Court, who ordered his removal to North View, East Preston, the County Council's Old People's Home, for a period of three months. He was duly removed and is still at the Home.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

There is an abundant supply of pure water obtained from deep well boring in the Downs at Burpham. The supply is constant and all the houses in that area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Twenty-three samples of raw water and 42 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory. Five samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Only 10 houses are not supplied from the public mains.

Extensions of mains during the year :—

Batworth Park Reservoirs to			
Cemetery Corner	...	...	3,568 yards
Wickbourne Estate	...	...	100 „
Cove Road	...	...	35 „
Chaucer Avenue	...	...	13 „

Sewers.

Extension of sewers during the year :—

Wickbourne Estate 1,900 yards—9in. diameter.

Rivers and Streams.

Observations are kept on the river Arun, as it passes through the town, to prevent offal and waste materials being thrown into the river.

Swimming Baths.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

SCHOOLS

There are eight Primary and Secondary schools in the district. All are provided with water closets and with the town water supply.

HOUSING

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1952

Twenty-two new houses were erected during 1952 by private enterprise and 86 by the Local Authority.

I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :—

(1)(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	223
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				1029
(2)(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	125
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				527

(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	131

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	125
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

Statutory action was taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in two cases.

4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding :—

(a)	i	No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	2
	ii	No of families dwelling therein	4
	iii	No. of persons dwelling therein	14½
(b)		No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... ..	10
(c)	i	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	8
	ii	No of persons concerned in such case	26
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	None

Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restriction) Act, 1920.

During the year no application has been made for a certificate under the above Act.

Houses let in Lodgings.

No action has been necessary under the Bye-laws in force in the district.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	40	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	87	109	18	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	111	149	22	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	16	16	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	2	2	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient	5	5	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	16	16	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences	5	5	—	1	—
Total ...	47	47	—	2	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases

	Und. 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	4	20	3	—	—	30
Whooping Cough...	—	3	4	2	—	—	—	10
Ac. Poliomyelitis :								
Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	13	—	9	2	—	—	36
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Und. 5 years	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Pneumonia ...	2	—	—	3	4	10
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	5
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	30	6	—
Whooping Cough ...	10	6	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis ...	2	2	—
Measles ...	36	4	—
Pneumonia ...	10	—	—
Erysipelas ...	5	2	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the estimated total number of children immunised under 5 years of age was 753, and between 5 and 14 years of age 1465.

During the year 104 children received a third reinforcing dose.

No case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

The following table shows the decline in notifications of Diphtheria and deaths from the disease since the beginning of the century.

	1901-10	1911-20	1921-30	1931-40	1941-50	1951	1952
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0	0
No. deaths ...	31	10	6	9	0	0	0

Food Poisoning.

No cases were notified during the year.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Brighton is in full use for the examination of bacteriological specimens. The Worthing Hospital is also available for examination of bacteriological and pathological specimens.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	9	3	1	2	1	2	—	—

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS.

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172

No action has had to be taken by the Council under this section, which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a magistrate's order for the removal of Tuberculous persons to an Institution for isolation.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952

To the Chairman and Members of the Littlehampton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you a report of the work carried out during the year 1952, this being my twentieth Annual Report.

Inspection of the District.

During the year 7,130 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis)...	...	...	...	...	169
Nuisances and complaints	...	...	...	...	93
Revisits to property under notice	...	...	...	...	402
Revisits where work was in progress...	...	...	...	...	107
Interviews with owners, agents or builders	...	...	...	...	395
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains	...	...	...	...	331
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	209
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	104
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	48
Factories	...	...	...	...	149
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	22
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	82
Re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	46
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	95
Refreshment rooms	...	...	...	...	292
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	65
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	31
Food Preparation Premises	...	...	...	...	568
Re stables	...	...	...	...	2

Inspection of the District (*continued*)

Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures	...	...	123
Re swine and fowls	...	...	14
Re water supply	...	...	146
No. of houses measured and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding	...	...	3
Vermin	...	...	147
Refuse accumulations	...	...	74
Miscellaneous	...	...	396
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	125
Re Shops Act, 1934	...	...	291
No. of rooms disinfected	...	...	62
Mosquitoes	...	...	3
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951	...	...	1
Houses let in Lodgings	...	...	1
Visits re state of garden, dustbins and rats	...	...	2696

Notices served.

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	250

Outstanding Notices.

At the end of 1952, 9 informal notices had not been complied with, but in all cases instructions had been given by the owners to builders.

Complaints.

During the year a total of 180 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters:—

Condition of house	...	...	...	...	13
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	84
Insects	...	...	...	...	4
Vermin	...	...	...	...	26
Unsatisfactory condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness	...	...	...	...	5
Choked and defective condition of drains	...	...	...	...	31
Smells	...	...	...	...	6
Land being used as a public convenience	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	2
Noise from ice cream factory	...	...	...	...	1
Discharge of effluent into river	...	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of yard	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year :—

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	109
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	118
Floors relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	62
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	91
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	38
Walls repaired and repointed	...	...	...	...	279
Insufficient ventilation remedied...	...	...	...	...	10
Insufficient lighting remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	141
Washing coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	64
Doors provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	43
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	60
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	...	...	...	...	33
New dustbins and covers provided	...	...	...	...	24
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	51
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	33
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	...	...	...	...	22
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	4
Sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	5
Sink or bath wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Urinals, etc.—cleansed, repaired, reconstructed or fitted with automatic flushing apparatus	...	...	...	...	6
Soil pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Yards paved or yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	5
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	15
Overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	8
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	162
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed	...	...	...	...	5
Offensive or stagnant water drained from ponds, tanks, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Caravans: insanitary sites and providing of W.C.'s, etc.	...	...	...	...	2
Pantries provided and ventilated to the open air	...	...	...	...	2
Food Premises: Drains cleansed and sanitary accom- modation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	30

Sanitary Improvements, etc. (continued).

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions	...	...	...	...	17
Bakehouses: cleansing, repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions	...	...	...	...	3
Factories: sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	44
Ice Cream Premises: cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions	...	...	...	...	19
Cupboards cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Defective flues repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Additional water closets	...	...	...	...	7
Defective sink waste channels repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Bath provided	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisance abated from the keeping of animals and swine	...	...	...	...	3
Cinema: dressing rooms improved or cleansed or urinals provided	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies and milk shops cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied	...	...	...	...	2

Moveable Dwellings.

There are four permanent sites for Moveable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Three are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed for a total of 34 trailer caravans.

The largest site is situated at the North of the district and is licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with town's water, water-closets or Elsan-closets, and were maintained in a fairly good condition throughout the year.

Dairies and Milkshops.

At the end of 1952 there were five cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are 5 retailers on the register, four resident in the district, and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside.

104 inspections were made of dairies during the year when the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:

Dairy in need of cleansing	...	...	...	1
Keeping of animals adjoining dairy	...	...	...	1

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

The following licences were granted during 1952 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Dealers licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	7
Dealers licence authorizing the use of the special designation Pasteurised	4

Clean Milk Production.

All milk sold in Littlehampton, with the exception of bottled Tuberculin-Tested milk, is Pasteurised.

Steam for sterilizing churns, cans, measures, etc., is in use at all Dairies.

Fifty-nine samples of designated milk (49 Pasteurised or Heat-treated, and 10 Tuberculin Tested) have been sent for bacteriological examination. Three samples failed to satisfy the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

There has been no slaughtering in this district since the Government Controlled Slaughtering ceased on March 14th, 1942.

During the year 209 visits were paid to Butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Shop window open allowing contamination of food ...	1
Uncoverd dustbin allowing breeding of flies ...	2

The following weights of meat and offal were surrendered as unfit for food :—

305 lbs. Beef.
38 lbs. Veal.
105 lbs. Pork.
20 lbs. Sausage Meat

Food Preparation Premises.

During the year 568 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Accumulation of refuse	1
Premises in need of cleansing and redecoration ...	1

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.

The following were surrendered as unfit for food :—

553 tins meat products.	5 boxes cheeses.
397 „ fruit.	138 stone fish.
74 „ fish products.	97 dozen duck eggs

Food Preparation Premises (continued).

584 tins miscellaneous products 969 rabbits.
259 pkts. of cake mixtures and
jellies.

Restaurants and Cafes.

There are at present 64 premises on the register and 292 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing and redecoration	...	...	4
Choked condition of drains	...	...	2
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	4
Sanitary conveniences in need of cleansing		...	4
Yard in need of cleansing or repairing	...	...	4
Need for proper bins for storage of refuse	...	...	10

Ice Cream Premises.

During the year there were 92 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 95 inspections were made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found, and in each case the necessary work was carried out:—

Premises in need of cleansing	...	...	...	2
Utensils in need of cleansing	...	...	...	1

Forty samples of ice cream were taken and sent for bacteriological examination during the year, and the results are given as follows:—

No. of samples.	Grade.	Average fat content.
20	I	8.3%
7	II	12.8%
10	III	9.1%
3	IV	13.1%

The average fat content of all samples was 9.6%.

Clean Food Campaign.

During 1952 1,347 visits were paid to the different food premises and improvements carried out where possible. There is therefore no additional information other than was given in the reply to the Ministry of Food Circular M.F. 12/49.

Bakehouses.

There are six bakehouses in the district, one of which is underground. During the year one underground bakehouse was closed down.

Forty-eight inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Bakehouses in need of cleansing and redecorating ...	3
--	---

Fried Fish Shops.

There are four fried fish shops operating in the district at present.

Thirty-one visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Shops Act, 1934.

During the year 129 visits have been paid to shops, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found :—

Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences ...	...	7
Need for new sanitary sinks ...	...	3
Need for additional dustbins ...	...	4
Need for provision of hot water ...	...	1
Insufficient lighting ...	...	1
Inadequate heating arrangements ...	...	1
Additional sanitary accommodation required ...	...	2

Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936.

All inns, public houses and beer houses, cinemas and places of public entertainment have been inspected during the year. At several of the premises improvements were made to sanitary accommodation, kitchens and washing facilities. Both owners and tenants co-operated in the work.

Public Health Act, 1936—Sections 83, 84 and 85.

During the year it was necessary to have 15 verminous rooms cleansed. In four cases bedding was removed for destruction. No person was removed to a Cleansing Station.

Disinfection.

During the year 62 rooms have been disinfected.

By arrangement with the West Sussex County Council, steam disinfection can be carried out at the Central Laundry, Chichester, but almost all disinfection is carried out at the premises.

Rag Flock and Other Fillings Act, 1951.

No premises have been found where Rag Flock is in use or on sale.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Eighty-four complaints were received and dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated.

The only major infestation in the district is on land used for controlled tipping on the West Bank of the River Arun. This area receives constant attention. The sewers also receive systematic attention, and inspections are carried out on agricultural land.

A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses, but charges are made in respect of business premises.

Extermination work is successfully accomplished by the use of Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill, Arsenious poison baits, Warfarin, "Horo Tubes", Antubaits and "Cyanide" Fumigation and trapping.

The following tables show statistics which have been sent to the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of works carried out during 1952.

Type of Property

	Local Authority	Dwelling House	Agricultural	All other (in cluding Business & Industrial)	Total
I Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	22	3950	13	485	4470
II Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise	(a) 3 (b) 113	111 434	21 23	30 133	165 703
III Number of properties Major found to be infested by rats Minor	— 6	— 113	— 12	— 30	— 161
IV Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice	—	5	—	8	13
V Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	6	118	—	11	135
VI Number of notices served under Section 4:— (1) Treatment (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	— —	— —	12 —	30 —	42 —
VII Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—

VIII Number of "block" control schemes carried out—26

Eradication of Bed-bugs.

One Non-Council house was found to be infested with bed-bugs. This was disinfested by the Council by the use of D.D.T-insecticides.

No houses were disinfested by the use of Hydrogen Cyanide, nor has it been necessary to disinfest the furniture of prospective tenants to Council houses.

Sanitary Accommodation.

The approximate number of water-closets in the district at the end of the year was 4,582.

There are 21 pail-closets in use, but these are situated at Toddington on nursery land, which part of the district is not connected to the sewer. There are also 81 cesspools mainly in the Eastern area. The scheme for sewage in the Eastern area which was in progress was temporarily suspended because of the war.

House refuse is collected weekly by the use of covered lorries, and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on the West side of the River Arun.

Public Conveniences.

There are ten Public Conveniences, eight Ladies' and nine Gentlemen's, and they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.

Sunshine and Rainfall Statistics.

			SUNSHINE (Hours)	RAINFALL (Inches)	
Month		1952	Average for 38 years	1952	Average for 38 years
January	...	108.3	66.2	2.77	3.03
February	...	93.0	83.1	0.70	2.14
March	...	99.4	138.5	3.09	1.85
April	...	196.2	176.7	1.37	1.86
May	...	236.4	225.6	2.62	1.87
June	...	265.6	239.2	0.99	1.52
July	...	230.3	220.3	0.64	2.07
August	...	224.9	210.3	1.74	2.22
September	...	164.5	162.3	4.62	2.28
October	...	110.3	124.3	3.39	2.92
November	...	68.4	75.2	3.66	3.37
December	...	67.5	59.3	3.43	2.96
Totals		1864.8	1781.0	29.02	28.09

Years	SUNSHINE			RAINFALL	
	No. of hours	Daily Average	No. of days on which sun was recorded	No. of inches	No. of days on which rain was recorded
1923	1831.5	5.02	209	30.10	185
1924	1789.5	4.80	307	31.10	153
1925	1915.2	5.25	326	33.30	159
1926	1681.8	4.61	296	28.70	175
1927	1691.4	4.63	312	33.90	190
1928	1945.5	5.32	311	31.50	179
1929	2068.1	5.67	316	30.04	152
1930	1808.1	4.95	319	31.43	183
1931	1633.4	4.48	300	24.42	216
1932	1558.5	4.29	315	27.09	194
1933	2062.8	5.65	318	23.08	155
1934	1758.5	4.82	297	28.09	166
1935	1771.8	4.85	311	36.01	182
1936	1679.9	4.59	304	28.63	182
1937	1691.6	4.63	304	33.51	176
1938	1809.7	4.96	311	24.51	183
1939	1828.9	5.01	203	34.89	211
1940	1876.8	5.12	309	29.46	164
1941	1641.3	4.49	296	25.06	160
1942	1677.9	4.51	294	27.03	137
1943	1818.0	4.97	294	25.21	175
1944	1665.1	4.54	296	23.51	169
1945	1672.2	4.58	301	28.72	173
1946	1692.8	4.63	297	32.11	211
1947	1812.9	4.96	287	26.74	175
1948	1873.5	5.09	299	26.22	137
1949	2041.3	5.59	319	23.83	91
1950	1738.4	4.76	303	27.79	166
1951	1819.2	4.98	294	38.22	190
1952	1864.8	5.09	314	29.02	166

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. McGARRY.

